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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/702,764	11/01/2000	Makoto Sato	862.C2041	9396

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EXAMINER

WU, JINGGE

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2623

DATE MAILED: 08/15/2003

4

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/702,764

Applicant(s)

SATO ET AL.

Examiner

Jingge Wu

Art Unit

2623

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 01 November 2000.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☐ Claim(s) 1-28 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) 1-6, 8-16, 18-26 and 28 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) 7, 17 and 27 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 2.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s) _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims 1-28 are directed.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-3, 8-9, 11-13, 18-19, 21-23, and 28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by US 5812788 to Agarwal.

As to claim 1, Agarwal discloses an image processing apparatus for receiving and decoding a code sequence obtained by encoding an image, comprising:

decoding means for entropy decoding the input code (fig. 16 and 18, elements 1602 and 1802, col. 21, lines 7-12);

correction value selection means for selecting correction values among a plurality of correction values, used to correct quantization indices decoded by said decoding means (abstract, col. 21, lines 19-32, col. 44 line 63-col. 48);

dequantizing means for generating a series of coefficient sequences representing an image by dequantizing the quantization indices which are decoded by

Art Unit: 2623

said decoding means and are corrected in accordance³ with the correction values (fig. 18, element 1806, col. 21, lines 19-32); and

inverse transforming means for restoring an image signal by executing a predetermined inverse transform manipulation of the coefficients (fig. 18, element 1808, col. 21, lines 19-53).

As to claim 2, Agarwal further disclose IDWT (col. 24 lines 9-46).

As to claim 3, Agarwal further disclose the dequantizing means corrects values of the quantization indices using the correction value in accordance with the values of the quantization indices, and generates the coefficient sequences by computing products of the corrected quantization indices and steps (col. 21, lines 19-32, col. 44 line 63-col. 48).

As to claim 8, Agarwal further disclose DWT for encoding the bit planes (col. 6 line 12-col. 8).

As to claim 9, Agarwal further disclose selecting the correction value in accordance with a value of the bit plane of the code sequences (col. 12 line 43-col. 16, line 7).

As to claims 11-13, 18-19, 21-23, and 28, claims 11-13, 18-19, 21-23, and 28 are the corresponding method, computer readable medium, and apparatus claims to claims 1-3 and 8-9 respectively. The discussion are addressed with regard to claims 1-3 and 8-9.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Art Unit: 2623

Claims 4-6, 10, 14-16, 24-26, and 20 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Agarwal in view of US 6603884 to Matsuura et al.

As to claim 4, Agarwal does not mention selecting a constant correction value for the coefficients belong to a lowest frequency.

Matsuura, in an analogous environment, discloses that feature (col. 16 lines 8-col. 17, note that 4 is selected for LL coefficients).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include the scheme of Matsuura in the system of Agarwal in order to obtain high compression rate with better image quality (Matsuura, col. 3).

As to claims 5 and 6, Matsuura further discloses selecting the correction values on the basis of information that pertains to neighboring regions (col. 15 line 46-col. 16).

As to claim 10, Matsuura further disclose selecting the correction values in according with a value of a flag indicating an image type (col. 18 lines 5-61 and col. Col. 21 lines 19-53).

As to claims 14-16, 24-26, and 20, claims 14-16, 24-26, and 20 are the corresponding method, computer readable medium, and apparatus claims to claims 4-6 and 10, respectively. The discussion are addressed with regard to claims 4-6 and 10.

Art Unit: 2623

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 7, 17, and 27 objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form **including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.**

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

US 6389074 to Andrew, US 5845243 to Smart et al., US 5923787 to Hara et al., and US 6373894 to Florencio et al. disclose methods for correcting Q factors.

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications should be directed to Jingge Wu whose telephone number is (703) 308-9588. He can normally be reached Monday through Thursday from 8:00 am to 5:30 pm. The examiner can be also reached on second alternate Fridays.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to TC customer service whose telephone number is (703) 306-0377.

If attempts to reach the Examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's supervisor, Amelia Au, can be reached at (703) 308-6604.

The Working Group Fax number is (703) 872-9314.

Jingge Wu

Primary Patent Examiner

